

By the King.

A Proclamation for reuoking all Licences heretofore granted for erecting new Buildings within the Citie of London, or two miles distance: together with a Restraint for building within the same Compasse.



Hereas Wee, vpon consideration of the great inconueniences dayly arising by the multitude of new Buildings from time to time erected in and neere Our Citie of London: And out of the tender care we haue of the welfare of Our louing Subjects, haue published sundry Our former Proclamations: as wel for restraining of new erections not meete to be tollerated, as for prescribing a forme of Building, in Cases where the same might without inconuenience be permitted. And yet there hath not ensued thereupon such reformation as Our care might expect; But the excesse of new Buildings and erections haue dayly more and more increased, and is still like so to doe; whereby, and by the immoderate confluence of people thither, Our said City, and the places adioyning, are and dayly will be more and more pestered, all Victuals and other provision endeared, Malefactors encouraged, the City and parts adioyning, for the basynesse thereof being not with any ordinary care or provision of Officers to be gouerned, the health of Our Subjects endangered, and other parts of Our Realme vnpeopled, which inconueniences haue growne to this heighth, partly by neglect of Our directions in that behalfe, and partly by the abuse of sundry Licenses, Tolleration and Dispensations, some of which haue been granted by others, without sufficient warrant or authority from Us, and others which haue been granted by Us, are not only defective in Law, both in respect of the misobteyning of the same vpon vntrue suggestions, and otherwise, but also in the execution thereof, haue bene so farre abused and strai ned beyond Our intention, and all moderat bounds that in Our princely care and zeale to the good of Our people, wee may not omit to vse all Lawfull meanes for a due reformation of these so great inconueniences: And therefore it being consonant to Law vpon so iust grounds, to reuoke and make void all the said Licenses.

We doe hereby signifie and declare Our will and pleasure to Reuoke and determine, and doe hereby (as much as in Us lyeth) from henceforth reuoke and determine all and singular Licenses, made or granted for the Erecting, Building or setting vp any houses or Buildings within Our said City of London, or within two miles of any the gates of the said Citie, contrary to Our intension herein expressed.

And we doe hereby charge & command, that no person or persons whatsoever shal at any time hereafter presume to erect or Build any maner of house or Building whatsoever, within Our said City of London, or within two miles of any the Gates of the same City, either within Liberties or without, by force of any such Licence reuoked, or by any other colour or pretext whatsoever, except the same be vpon an old Foundation of an House or Building erected and finished, before the Feast of S. Michael Th' archangel, in the thirteenth yeere of Our reigne ouer this Our Realme of England: Nor to erect any dwelling house vpon the Foundation of any Barne, Stable, Shed or other Building, not formerly vsed for habitation, but that they & every of them doe from henceforth utterly surcease and desist from all maner of Erections and Buildings whatsoever to be made, except they be vpon old Foundations as aforesaid, which we will not shalbe exceeded or enlarged in the setting vp of such new Building.

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And further, That all and every person and persons, which at any time hereafter shall erect, build, or set up within any the Limits, Places or Precincts aforesaid, any manner of houses, or other Buildings whatsoever, shall make and build the same of such height, and in such manner and forme as herein is expressed (That is to say) Every whole Story of and in such houses and Buildings; and all & every the Roomes of such whole Story shalbe of the height of ten foote of Assise at the least; And every halfe Story of and in such houses and Buildings, shalbe of the height of seuen foote & a halfe of assise at the least: And that the Forefront, & outer walles & windows therof shall be of Bricke, or of Bricke and Stone: And if the said building do not exceede two Stories in height, then the walles therof shalbe of the thicknes of one Brickes and halfe a Bricks length frō the ground unto the uppermost part of the said wals: And where the building ihalbe abone the height of two Stories, the walles of the first Story shall be of the thicknesse of two Brickes length; and from thence unto the uppermost part of the wall, of the thicknes of one Brickes and halfe a Bricks length: And that in building of the said houses, there shalbe no Jutties, or hutting windowes, either vpon Timber ioists, or otherwise, but the walles to go direct & straight vpwards, and at the setting off, a Water table to bee made. Also the Lights in the windows of every whole Story to be of more heighth then breadth, to the end there may bee a sufficient peere of Bricke betweene the windowes for strength: And likewise the windowes of every halfe Story to be made square euery Way, or neere thereabouts. And lastly, that all Shops in every principal Street of Trade, be made with Pillasters of hard Stone or Bricke cut in wedges Archwise, Up- on paine that all persons directly or indirectly neglecting or disobeying this our Proclamation, or doing any thing contrary to the tenor thereof, or of any part thereof, shall endure and abide such Censure in Our high Court of Starre Chamber, as shall be adiudged against them for their offences, & as contemners of Our Royall Commandement. And wee do also straitly charge and command all and singular Maiors, Shiriffes, Justices of Peace, and all other Our Officers and Ministers, That they and every of them vse all diligence to see the premisses well & duely performed, and do by all lawfull wayes and meanes hinder and restraine all proceedings and attempts to the contrary of Our pleasure herein declared. And if any person or persons shall by colour of any such Licence, Toleration or Dispensation, as aforesayd, doe, or attempt any thing contrary to this Our Proclamation, the said Maiors, Shiriffes, Justices of Peace, & other Our Officers and Ministers shall neverthelesse proceede in the execution of this Our Royall Commandement vntill upon due examination of the validitie of the same Licences, Tolerationes or Dispensatiōns, they shall receive other direction from Us or Our Prive Councell.

Given at Our Palace of Westminster the twentieth day of July, in the sixteenth yeare of Our Raigne of England, France and Ireland, and of Scotland the ~~one~~ and Fiftieth.

God saue the King.

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*Excellent Maiestie.*

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